

# TYSON FOODS INC

Reported by  
**WHITE NOEL W**

## FORM 3

(Initial Statement of Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 12/07/09 for the Period Ending 12/04/09

Address	2200 DON TYSON PARKWAY SPRINGDALE, AR 72762-6999
Telephone	479-290-4000
CIK	0000100493
Symbol	TSN
SIC Code	2015 - Poultry Slaughtering and Processing
Industry	Food Processing
Sector	Consumer/Non-Cyclical
Fiscal Year	09/30

# FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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## INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a)  
of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the  
Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (MM/DD/YYYY)	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
<b>White Noel W</b>	<b>12/4/2009</b>	<b>TYSON FOODS INC [TSN]</b>
(Last) (First) (Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
<b>2200 DON TYSON PARKWAY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Sr. Group VP Tyson Fresh Meats /</b>	
(Street)	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
<b>SPRINGDALE, AR 72762</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(City) (State) (Zip)		

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>55178</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>27031</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>Employee Stock Purchase Plan</b>

### Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned ( e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>10/10/2004</b> (1)	<b>10/10/2012</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>\$9.64</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>9/19/2005</b> (1)	<b>9/19/2013</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>2400</b>	<b>\$13.33</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options</b>	<b>9/29/2006</b>	<b>9/29/2014</b>	<b>Class A Common</b>	<b>6000</b>	<b>\$15.96</b>	<b>D</b>	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned ( e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
<b>(right to buy)</b>	<b>(1)</b>		<b>Stock</b>				
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>11/16/2007</b> <b>(1)</b>	<b>11/16/2015</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>\$16.35</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>11/17/2008</b> <b>(1)</b>	<b>11/17/2016</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>\$15.37</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>11/16/2009</b> <b>(1)</b>	<b>11/16/2017</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>\$15.06</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>11/14/2010</b> <b>(1)</b>	<b>11/14/2018</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>\$4.9</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Non-Qualified Stock Options (right to buy)</b>	<b>11/30/2010</b> <b>(2)</b>	<b>11/30/2019</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>\$12.02</b>	<b>D</b>	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- (1) The Stock Options vest at 40% on the second anniversary date of the grant and 20% each year thereafter for the following three years.
- (2) The Stock Options vest at 33 1/3% on the first anniversary date of the grant and 33 1/3% for the following two years.

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
<b>White Noel W 2200 DON TYSON PARKWAY SPRINGDALE, AR 72762</b>			<b>Sr. Group VP Tyson Fresh Meats</b>	

**Signatures**

**Noel White**

**12/7/2009**

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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